

art and poetry by Eric Hawkins

volume 1

I am an artist and all that comes with it. The severe introvert with a need to connect somehow through others with words printed on a page that may never get read. I can't tell you what you want to hear because I can't understand how you function in the vacuum of self absorption. I try to fit in and belong to the crowd that surrounds me but the truth is I'm just a mirror to what you do. Hiding my soul in a tattered box in the corner destined for tomorrow's trash. I speak to my demons in the morning to keep them in check so maybe I can make it through one more day. One more day in an achievement. One more day is my goal. One more day is what keeps me above ground, one more day. My words aren't meant to be pretty, much like most of the world. Smiling in the morning to hide the darkness at dusk. Keeping the devil quiet through the night. I am an artist and all



that comes with it. Keeping the light on



People are quick to say I don't need you Because they are too afraid to say don't go. Building bunkers for their innocence Keeping the demons at the door

I don't need nobody she screams After cutting her arm from the broken Glass she snatched from the broken Picture frame with his picture in it.

I don't need nobody he screams
After his parents shut him out
From any resemblance of affection
Not knowing what he's about

I don't need nobody she screams Closing Facebook on her phone As she slips on the lasso She hopes will send her home

People are quick to say I don't need you Because they are too afraid to say don't go Begging silently to be heard by someone Longing for family and to belong

A place to feel security Simple comforts of home Dreaming of serenity While sitting all alone

Dreaming of security Needing to belong



Do you see? See? Do you see?

I didn't know I was falling
After I convinced myself to fly
No clue where I was going
But I was soaring so very high

Everyday was like a dream
With a nightmare following behind
Falling in love with an idea
The immortals never die

Thoughts faster than sound Watching myself from memories Living a day after the day before I can't take this shit anymore

I didn't know I was falling Looking at the ground My grave coming to meet me Dying faster than sound

Everyday was like a dream
With a nightmare following behind
Im not sure who's life I lived
Fuck I never meant it to be mine.



## You mean

woman

can open it?

Early—without a knife blade, a bottle operar, or even a husband! All it takes is a dainty group, an easy, two-finger twist—and the catsup is

We call this safe-sealing boute cap the Alona HyTop. It is made of pure, food-loving Alona Aluminum. It spins off—and back on again without muscle power because an exclusive Alona process failurs it to each bottle's through after a is on the bestle. By vaccium smiling both imp and sides, the HyTop gives purity a deathle guard.

You'll recognize the autosoive, reachible lityllop when you are in an your peoper's shuff life living, the white, it's grounded—and it's on the intest families and flavorded branch. Put the licintle that ways it in your backer. —, save flambling, furning and ingers a copraing since with the most properative up in the world—the Alsoy IB/Top Classics.



WHAT IS BEAL ANYMORE?

She erupts with rage As the cashier rings Tomorrow's groceries With yesterday's wage

I can't put anything
Back there's nothing left
But my medicine
I can do without

She erupts with rage Blaming the cashier Because no one else Is there to hold her hand

She erupts with rage
As the pressure builds
As the interest compounds
As the postman brings more bills

She erupts with rage Before she falls to her knees Broken and battered But her soul not shattered

She erupts with rage
Because she feels so alone
So alone even at home
Even at home she doesn't belong









## HOPETISTPOWER



I won't insult you by telling you I know how you feel. By telling you the sun will rise again, this too shall pass, it won't rain forever. I won't patronize you in iambic pentameter, trying to show you how sympathetic I am with my words. Trying to use your pain to sell a poem. I can't know your pain. I can't feel your heart. I can't live in the existence of your soul. I wouldn't dare tell you I know how you feel. I'll just be here. I won't try to fix you. I won't motivate you. I won't try to relate to you like a high school chemistry teacher. I'll just be here.



The moonlight covers her body
As the nights breeze dances in her hair
Gazing at the wonders above
Thinking if she will ever live up there

Lost in time and space
That no one could ever see
Letting go of her worries
Alive in the moment she will be

Breathing in the worldly beauty
And letting go of all the pain
In each passing moment
She will never be the same

Tomorrow is a product of the day before Only one thing will remain the same Time, life, and love goes by But she will always have her name

The beauty that lies within her Only a lucky few will see She never needs approval From you, from anyone, or me

The moonlight covers her body Her spirit dances in the air She can feel the love of the world Her heart and mind, a perfect pair



I may not be like you
But I'll help, if you need me
I may not say many words
But I still have a story to tell

This world feels mighty strange You know me if you feel it But my heart hasn't changed It just gets clouded in the rain

You may not understand The space that I needed It just helps me heal From the noises from within

I may not be like you
But I'm here, if you need me
I won't leave another
To feel alone in this world

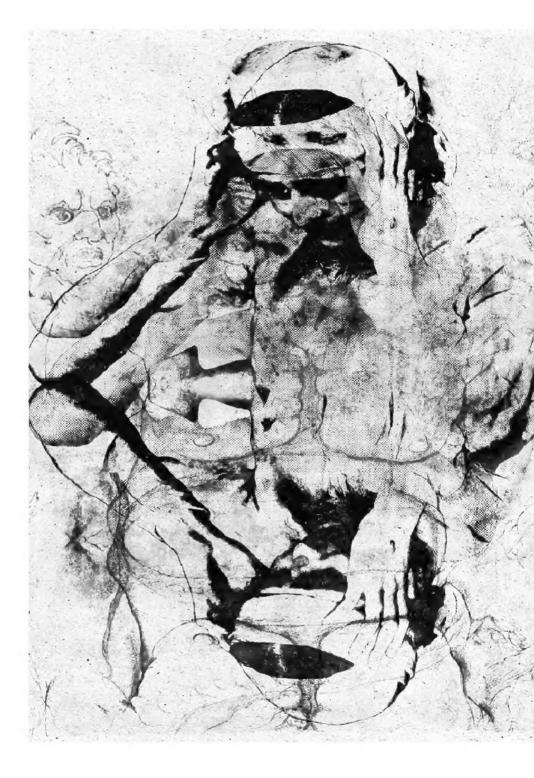
I don't say many words
But each word, I feel it
I may not have caused it
But I feel your suffering

I may not understand The heartache that brings it But I'll never turn away From a stranger or a friend

I may not be like you
Someday I may need you
Sometimes I need
The kind words of a friend

Family





Drinking my 5am cofee At half past noon Tasting the bitter Procrastination of life

Feeling the familiar Caress of a cigarette Breathing in the illusion That keeps the fire burning

Preparing my mind To cope with the mindless Repetition of resistance For forty hours or more

Panic for productivity
Pain as a profession
Just for more possessions
And the 40lk illusion

Someday I can live Someday I'll be free Someday I'll retire Someday I'll achieve

Buy food on credit For the first 15 years Paying off the debts For the next thirty.

When they bury me
You can rest easy
The final price of peace
Can be paid in monthly installments

I am a glimpse of somebody familiar that you thought you once knew. You can't quite remember my name but you recognize that look in my eye. You've seen it somewhere before. You've seen it in the eyes of a child on a summer day. You've seen it in the eyes of your old family dog when you got home from school. You've seen it in your grandmother when she says she was proud of you. You didn't stop me as you walked by. You could have sworn you knew me when you looked into my eyes. Maybe I was someone you knew in school. Maybe I was someone your friend once knew. Or maybe I am someone who lived similar to you. A life lived on a parallel plane. A little different but basically the same. Maybe you felt weird and uncool. Maybe you had your heart broken a time or two. Maybe you thought no one could ever be like you. Maybe you find peace while sitting alone. Maybe you hate answering a phone. Whatever it is or what it could be. You could have sworn you truly knew me.



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